

## Claims

1. Foil-type switching element comprising  
a first carrier foil and a second carrier foil arranged at a certain distance  
from each other by means of a spacer, said spacer comprising at least one  
recess defining an active area of the switching element, and  
5 at least two electrodes arranged in the active area of the switching element  
between said first and second carrier foils in such a way that, in response to  
a pressure acting on the active area of the switching element, the first and  
second carrier foils are pressed together against the reaction force of the  
elastic carrier foils and an electrical contact is established between the at  
10 least two electrodes,  
characterized by a layer of dielectric material, said dielectric material being  
applied onto said first carrier foil between the carrier foil and an electrode  
arranged on said first carrier foil, said layer of dielectric material covering at  
least a region of the first carrier foil which is delimited by a generally outer  
15 periphery of the electrode arranged on said first carrier foil.
2. Foil-type switching element according to claim 1, wherein a layer of dielec-  
tric material is applied onto said second carrier foil between the second car-  
rier foil and an electrode arranged on said second carrier foil.
3. Foil-type switching element according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said layer of  
20 dielectric material is applied on the respective carrier foil in substantially the  
entire area of said active area.
4. Foil-type switching element according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said layer of  
dielectric material is applied on the respective carrier foil in the entire area  
of said active area and extends laterally beyond said active area.
- 25 5. Foil-type switching element according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said layer of  
dielectric material is applied on the respective carrier foil on the complete  
surface of said carrier foil.
6. Foil-type switching element according to any one of the preceding claims,  
wherein said layer of dielectric material is printed onto said carrier foil.

7. Foil-type switching element according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein a thickness of said layer of dielectric material varies over the active area.